..And now it's time to present our first scholarship. She is a recipient of the ***(ALFA)*** *Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance Award and has been a member of the movement towards social justice as a queer woman of color in the Atlanta area for many years. In her community work, she has worked closely with the Queer Progressive Agenda, Trikone-Atlanta, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and AGLBIC (the Association of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual issues in Counseling. In her volunteer and advocacy work, she has led a support group for South Asian survivors of intimate partner violence and incorporated focus group work into her research with transgender individuals and South Asian women who have survived child sexual abuse. Please welcome* ***Anneliese Singh*** *and her donors.*

Scholar and donors go up on stage together. Donor goes to microphone, introduces self and says his/her piece(s)…and then gives scholarship to recipient. Scholarship recipient makes remarks.

2. *At the age of seventeen with a newborn infant, she received the diagnosis that they were both HIV positive. After years of waiting to die, Cooper made the decision to live, and after obtaining her GED, graduated at the top of her class with a bachelor's degree and has now entered the graduate program at Columbia University School of Public Health. She currently works as an HIV Adolescent Counselor by providing prevention counseling in an attempt to help eradicate the spread of HIV. Please welcome* ***Charlene Cooper*** *and her donor..*

Scholar and donors go up on stage together. Donor goes to microphone, introduces self and says his/her piece(s)…and then gives scholarship to recipient. Scholarship recipient makes remarks.

3. *The recipient of the next Audre Lorde scholarship writes about how important being "out" is to her. "As a daughter, former wife, mother, friend, family member, student and employee, being "out" changes for me, she says, in each of these settings. My sexuality, on the other hand, is not optional." Graves is a senior at the*

Prevention Training to not only the inmates but to members of the community at large. Her future plans are to open her own Community Based Organization providing services for women diagnosed with HIV/ AIDS, history of substance use, incarceration, domestic violence and other related issues that place them at risk. Please welcome ***Pamela Goodrich*** *and her donors Kathi Martin, Edith Biggers, and Brinda Taylor.*

Scholar and donors go up on stage together. Donor goes to microphone, introduces self and says his/her piece(s)…and then gives scholarship to recipient. Scholarship recipient makes remarks.

((Frances goes to microphone to present community award #3))

COMMUNITY AWARD PRESENTATION #3 (Frances/Angie B)

COMMUNITY AWARD PRESENTATION #4 (BJ/Marissa Penderman)

PERFORMANCE Lillie Huddleston – DEDICATING TO SCHOLARS AT TABLE 3

Award Presentations resume..

CARA:

6. ***Ruth Senecharles*** *is an entering freshman at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, Connecticut. She says that her primary goal is to gain the essential skill set to become a social worker. Senecharles dreams of opening an after school program dedicated to helping children from low-income families as well as lesbian, gay and bisexual youth. "I want to have a safe place for youth to question, and learn and have healthy mutual relationships with adults. I don't want lgbt youth growing up feeling confused and depressed about their sexuality." Please welcome Ruth and her donors.*

Scholar and donors go up on stage together. Donor goes to microphone, introduces self and says his/her piece(s)…and then gives scholarship to recipient. Scholarship recipient makes remarks.

CARA:

7. Our next recipient is a rising junior at Drexel University in Philadelphia. ***Jeremiah Waters****, a finance and information systems major assumed the entire financial burden for his college education after his clergy father informed him that he would no longer support him if he remained an active homosexual. He says "I personally take being out very seriously because of the price I have had to pay to be an out gay man. Being out has been a wonderful, liberating experience, but it has also caused the most difficult time in my life with my conservative Christian family." With the help of friends and professors, Waters is determined to continue his education and thrive in his life. Please welcome Jeremiah Waters and his donor with a round of applause..*

Scholar and donors go up on stage together. Donor goes to microphone, introduces self and says his/her piece(s)…and then gives scholarship to recipient. Scholarship recipient makes remarks.

8. ***Karen Williams****, recipient of this year's* ***Fourth Tuesday Award*** *is in her second year of the Ph. D. program at The Graduate Center at CUNY focusing on Cultural Anthropology. Although she has had an ongoing struggle to raise money for her education, she continues to balance a full academic load with a demanding job. Growing up in a household where neither parent attended college, education and expression have always been central to her goals. Since 1998, with support from grants and community organizations, Williams has used her writings and performances to illustrate the embedded physical and psychological pain of*

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incarceration. Please welcome Karen Williams and her donor representative for Fourth Tuesday.

Scholar and donors go up on stage together. Donor goes to microphone, introduces self and says his/her piece(s)…and then gives scholarship to recipient. Scholarship recipient makes remarks.

9. ***Christel Serena Miller*** *is a four-time Audre Lorde Scholarship recipient. After graduating from Rice University in the spring of 2005, Miller is now in her second year of graduate school at UCLA studying film production. Her vision these days is to simply produce films about which she is passionate. She gives an example by writing, "Brokeback Mountain worked because it was a heartfelt story about two characters and their unrequited love, not because it was advocating for gay rights." Christel's most recent film,* ***Butchalez****, premiered at the Reach LA Queer Youth Filmmakers Showcase earlier this year. Please welcome Christel Miller and her donors..*

Scholar and donors go up on stage together. Donor goes to microphone, introduces self and says his/her piece(s)…and then gives scholarship to recipient. Scholarship recipient makes remarks.

PERFORMANCE: Anthony Antoine – The Revolution will not be Televised. Live Anthony dedicates performance to scholarship recipients seated at Table 4.

10. One of ***Dale Guy Madison's most*** *passionate memories is of coming out to his parents. "I came out in 1976 shortly after my 18th birthday. I blurted it out in a moment of proud adoration. My father received this by telling me I had to move out of his house in two weeks. My life changed at that moment. My dreams of going to NYU and studying acting vanished. I had to figure out where I was going to live. My friends were preparing for the prom, and I was shopping for an apartment. My closet door opened and I never closed it after that." Madison is*

now a student at Santa Monica College in California, and is learning all he can about entertainment marketing by majoring in Business. In 1991, he became a host on the QVC shopping channel. On the show, he conceived and produced the first-ever shopping show dedicated to products originating from Africa. Consequently, QVC helped to launch Madison's career as a nationally recognized doll designer. Since then, he has co-founded an organization called AAD (Actors Against Drugs), coordinated the Men of Color AIDS Prevention Project, owned and operated an openly gay gift store (art-n-design) in the heart of the gay community of Baltimore. Please welcome Dale Guy Madison and congratulations on your Audre Lorde Scholarship.

Scholar and donors go up on stage together. Donor goes to microphone, introduces self and says his/her piece(s)…and then gives scholarship to recipient. Scholarship recipient makes remarks.

11. ***Brandon Kazen-Maddox*** *is in his first year at the University of Washington in Seattle. He has worked as a sign language interpreter and a mentor of children through music. "With financial assistance, I hope to flat out succeed, he says. When I attempt to do something, I am going to do it 100% and persist until it is done. Brandon says he works hard to take nothing for granted because he knows how it feels to have nothing. I want to help people and make a huge difference in the lives of others. I want to be a person that people can look to and say, that guy is gay but he's really funny. Please welcome "funnyman – Brandon Kazen-Maddox.*

Scholar and donors go up on stage together. Donor goes to microphone, introduces self and says his/her piece(s)…and then gives scholarship to recipient. Scholarship recipient makes remarks.

12. He's described as a nonprofit guru, coalition builder, lgbtq/human rights activist, cultural worker, feminist, writer, and scholar. ***Craig Washington****, the recipient of the* ***Mary Anne Adams Award****, attends Georgia State University earning*

a degree in Social Work while continuing to work full-time as a volunteer and training coordinator at Positive Impact, an AIDS advocacy and support organization. According to Washington, "There is not a space or level of community interaction in which I am not open about my sexual orientation. After my initial coming out process, I was intentional about liberating myself from any vestiges of shame or self-consciousness about being gay. I would not befriend anyone who could not accept and affirm that aspect of my being. Being out is not a static condition but an ongoing process of evolution that entails an uncovering, an unpacking, a continual shedding to reach my divine humanity and recognize the humanity of others." Please welcome ***Craig Washington*** *and his donor, Mary Anne Adams.*

Scholar and donors go up on stage together. Donor goes to microphone, introduces self and says his/her piece(s)…and then gives scholarship to recipient. Scholarship recipient makes remarks.

PERFORMANCE – Lillie Lewis singing Beauty Beyond Reason – DEDICATING TO SCHOLARS AT TABLE 5

CARA:

13. *Here is the story of* ***Kaila Adia Story.*** *The recipient of the Sheryl Burke Award, is a Doctoral student in African-American Studies at Temple University in Pennsylvania. Story's dissertation is about "…the public embodiment performances of Black women and men who perform Black Femininity", paying particular attention to historical imagery of the "Hottentot Venus" and current images of the "Video Vixen", the "Black drag queen", and the "Black butch woman". Named the Graduate Fellow in the Institute for Race and Social Thought at Temple, Story currently teaches two courses there: one in Women's and LGBT Studies that examines same-sex erotic attraction, and an African-American Studies course that provides an overview of the experience, culture, and politics of African descendants*

throughout the world. Please welcome Kaili Adia Story and her donor Sheryl Burke.

Scholar and donors go up on stage together. Donor goes to microphone, introduces self and says his/her piece(s)…and then gives scholarship to recipient. Scholarship recipient makes remarks.

*(((**Sheryl Burke remains on stage** and introduces her next scholar)))*

*14. The recipient of the next award is a Doctoral student at SUNY Binghamton studying Philosophy, Sexuality, Race and Gender. At Binghamton, she is an active member of a new initiative called, "The Projects of Queer Studies: Race, Pedagogy, and Social Theory" that seeks to cultivate radical 'queer of color social thought' and activism. Tushabe believes that it is her responsibility to come out as a lesbian of color in the classroom saying she feels responsible to herself and her students to break the silence and confront fear. In her future, Tushabe dreams of becoming a 'transnational cultural worker' addressing queer issues in her native Uganda and in the United States. Please join me in welcoming the next Sheryl Burke scholar. I am pleased to honor **Caroline Tushabe.**.*

Too Long

Scholar goes onstage to receive award. Sheryl is already there and presents award check. Scholarship recipient makes remarks.

15. I am pleased to now introduce ***Tamara Bullock**, as recipient of the next **Sheryl Burke Award**. She is in her senior year at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts, majoring in International Relations -- and aspires to work in the non-profit sector addressing the social, political, economic, and environmental aspects of development. Among her accomplishments, Bullock co-chaired an LGBT group for people of color at Mount Holyoke; organized meetings, dialogues, and poetry performances for LGBT people of color issues; and continues to write poetry celebrating LGBT identity. In April, Bullock was the recipient of a Mount Holyoke College 2006 Summer Research Fellowship for research on Gender and*

Development: Strategies of Survival, Resistance and Change: Please join me in welcoming Tamara Bullock....

Scholar goes onstage to receive award. Sheryl is already there and presents award check. Scholarship recipient makes remarks.

(((CARA re-enters to introduce next recipients..)))

*16. **Adetunji Olude** is the recipient of the **Margaret Ntombi Howell Power Presence Memorial Award**. Pursuing a Law degree at the University of California in Berkeley, she chose juvenile law as a focus due to the challenges she faced in her own life and "a childhood and adolescence plagued by domestic violence." She is currently employed as a legal assistant at Legal Services for Children in San Francisco, an organization of social workers, attorneys, and support staff who represent and protect the rights of children. Olunde says "many of the youth have been abused and lack the consistence of supportive guardians or a safe environment in which to grow." Olude is determined to lead an authentic life and says the importance of being "out" for her has a lot to do with being fully engaged in relationships with family and friends and "sharing with them who I truly am." , She is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese. Please join me in welcoming **Adetunji Olunde** and her donors tonight.*

Scholar and donors go up on stage together. Donor goes to microphone, introduces self and says his/her piece(s)...and then gives scholarship to recipient. Scholarship recipient makes remarks.

17. Our final scholar tonight is ***Fiona Lewis***, *the recipient of the **Linda Bryant Award.** Fiona has been an integral part of the Atlanta LGBT community and has been working at Charis Books & More for the past eight years. She moved to Atlanta after getting her undergraduate degree in Gender Studies and British and American Literature from New College of Florida. Lewis' first novel, Bliss, was*

published in 2005 by Kensington Books and her sophomore effort, A Taste of Sin, is being released this year. Lewis attends San Diego University in California and is pursuing an MFA degree. About one of her favorite authors, she says, "Like Michelle Cliff, I want to write about the Jamaica of my memories, but also about the country as it exists now. I want to talk about things previously unmentioned, like women loving women, and men loving men, and about how we can change our world, or island, one loud voice at a time." Lewis' short fiction has been published in Best Lesbian Erotica 2004. Please join me in welcoming our final scholar of the evening, Fiona Lewis and her donor..

Scholar and donors go up on stage together. Donor goes to microphone, introduces self and says his/her piece(s)...and then gives scholarship to recipient. Scholarship recipient makes remarks.

AUDIO Cue: Angelina Hughley plays saxophone selection before keynote address...

Kathi Martin enters to introduce Shirleen Holmes.

(Introduction copy to come/MA)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER – **Shirleen Holmes**. 10:00 (max)

Call for donations...

[Board Chair Mary Anne Adams will close by thanking the donors, the award recipients for applying and a word to encourage them to continue doing their work. She will also thank the sponsors here. ..and Cara.]

CARA:

Closes the awards program and says goodnight..